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STIR-TIS-TICS

High Number	22 571	Low Number	14 608
Population Inside	282	Rothe Hall	159
Womans Quarters	6	Ranches	6
Misc. Trusties	5	Total Count	466
		On Leave	3

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the Editors Desk

Recently there has been a great hue and cry about crime on the streets. One of the obvious places to begin, would appear to be in the prisons; trying to do something constructive about criminals. Something needs to be done to help them change their ways: But does the American public care, whether or not, prisons rehabilitate prisoners.

Also, there has been a great deal written and spoken about our parole system. Some individuals have cried out "loud and clear"that the parole board is releasing hordes of dangerous, unstable criminals, so that they can prey upon society.

Let's take a closer look into this situation; and observe those who are crying out the loudest. These people you will find, know next to nothing about our parole system, but they make a pretty darn good living by relating such propaganda to a duped public. These "arm chair" penologists make my breechcloth stand on end.

An intelligent person, would at least read and inform himself,before setting themselves up as an authority on this subject of parole. But this seems to be the age of the "instand expert" - knowledge without effort or research.

Society tends to believe that the majority of the convicts that are released, are running "rough shod" through their streets, committing every type of crime there is to commit. Boy, how stupid can you get--you know that this is absolutly false, but nonetheless this is a matter that should be looked at squarely and refuted.

When an ex-convict goes astray of the law, the news media chants exuberantly with glee and smacks their lips in eager anticipation. Newspaper editors, in gen-

eral, are responsive enough to know the value of news sensationalism;that is what they are in business for -- -- to sell newspapers. That is the name of the game.

This wouldn't be so disasterous,if once in awhile, the news media would at least remind the public; although one or two parolees' may have committed another crime,there are still hundreds of other parolees who did not. But of course, this isn't sensationalistic enough, no news value involved in some parolee leading a quite, respectable, law-biding life - so this is the aspect that they refuse to take notice of.

It cannot be denied that some expconvicts do commit crimes while on parole; but contrary to general belief, the number is quite small. So this isn't just an idle statement, made on the spur of the moment to jack up our arguement: This is a statement - that can be backed up by facts and records.

The majority of the exconvicts that are returned to prison as parole violators are brought back for relatively minor reasons; such as leaving their assigned district without permission, not gainfully employed, excessive use of alcohol, associating with persons of "ill repute" (whatever than means), and so on down the ladder. While such things are of a minor consequence to the average citizen, anyone of these can mean a long term in prison for the ex-con who violates his parole.

Despite a great deal of statements by prosecuting attorneys,police officers,-- and the like, a great majority of the ex-cons on parole are making a good account of themselves - and do not return to prison. Belief to the contrary is always generated by some highly - publicized account of one or two parolees who may have committed another crime.

The only intelligent, and honorable way to judge the success or failure of parole is to study the results - the records. An intelligent person is rather curious by nature and refuses to accept rumors, gossip, and the unsupported statements of obviously prejudiced individuals.

Generally, it is agreed that murder is one of the most serious of all crimes. So in order to be perfectly fair about this, we will choose that crime for our discussion. We will now examine the records of several hundred paroled killers and find out what really happen to them.

In Montana, between Jan-

uary 1950 and January 1969, 15 life-termers were released on parole after serving an average of 16 years. Only 4 have since returned as parole violators.

In California, 342 first degree murderers were released on parole between 1945 and 1954. Of that number, only 37 had to be returned to prison as violators.

In Connecticut, between 1947 and 1960, a total of 60 prisoners who were serving life-terms for murder were released on parole, after serving an average of 15 years. This group included five men who had been originally sentenced to death. Of these 60 paroled, only 7 were returned to prison as parole violators - none for another felony.

In Maryland, 37 life-termers were paroled between 1936 and 1961, after serving an average of 16 years. Only 9 of them had to be returned to prison as parole violators.

In Massachuetts, between 1900 and 1958, 10 prisoners serving life for murder were paroled, after serving an average of 22 years. Of that number, only 2 of them were returned to prison as parole violators - and the reason given in both cases was "indiscreet behavior."

In Ohio, 169 first-degree murderers were paroled between 1945 and 1960, after serving an average of 23 years in prison. Only 10 were returned as parole violators, and only tow of them for another felony.

In Michigan, 164 convicted killers were released on parole between 1938 an 1959 Only 4 of them had to be returned as parole violators.

Now then, we find out--that out of these 797 convicted killers who were serving life sentences, and who were released on parole, only 73 were returned to prison as parole violators, and a tiny fraction of those 73 that were paroled committed another felony. You probably guessed it already; these 73 that violated their paroles received all the publicity and headlines, while 724 released life-term convicts who made good - received no mention at all. This of course, resulted in a rather distorted picture about what actually happened, and left the general public with the impression, that parole must be a complete failure.

I would also like to call your attention to the fact; that out of those 797 that were paroled, had served from 15 to 23 years in prison, before they were released. This refuted the

statements of those who claim that parole boards are releasing prisoners "too quickly."

So the main point I'm trying to stress is, that several hundred convicted killers were released on parole, without the slightest harm or danger to the public.

I think that is is a tribute to the sound judgement and good sense of parole board members, and I also think that instead of being constantly condemned and critized, parole boards should be congratulated for what they think is best under the circumstances.

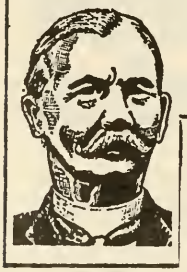
73 mistakes out of 797! It would be interesting to learn just how the critics of the parole boards would improve on that!

Although, this may not be germane to the subject at hand: But there will be those, who will think that I'm trying to curry favor with the parole board. If so let me set your "cotton-picking" mind at ease. I've been up before that parole board 7 times to have my case cussed and discussed: And you know something, I've been flopped 7 times in a row. How does that "grab" you? And something else too! You know what my beef is? Forgery! Like the good judge said - when he sentenced me in Great Falls: "You'll probably beat the sheriff back to town!"

Well! I've got news for him - I'm still here, butting my head up against a 20 foot stone wall...(mutt)

EDITORS NOTE: My thanks go out to Mrs. Dolores Munden for my statistics.

"My newest dress is one year old today."



Nightkeeper

Published weekly in The Spectator, inmate written and edited newspaper at Southern Michigan Prison, Nightkeeper's Report has been acclaimed the most widely printed prison feature in the nation's 190 member Penal Press. Penned in neat Spencerian script by nightkeeper John L. Purves in the 1880's, the day-to-day reports chronicled occurances within the dark and gloomy confines of the prison. Today the reports are dust laden, worn and fragile. But entries abound in a crisply written and entertaining report of nights behind bars.

November 1 -There has been some noise going on outside the prison all night. A brass band riding about in a wagon passed the prison several times tooting and hollering in a raucous manner, unpleasant to my ears. I understand it is electionnering of some sort, but I vow if my vote was courted by such tin-horning, I'd vote for the other candidate for spite. The noisesome campaign was contagious and the convicts picked up where the electioneers left off. "We want Charlie, the Torch, for gov'nor. We want the Torch," they began yelling.

November 4 -Just after the bell there was a lot of hand-clapping in the East Wing in applause to a tune played on a banjo by one of the convicts. I cannot condone this applause, though frankly it was merited. This convict plays as neat a banjo ditty as I've heard in sometime, and I favor this instrument somewhat more than others. While all this was going on Guard Williams suffered a severe heart attack. He became quite blue and complained of intense pain. I called the doctor who responded promptly but he gives little hope for the recovery of this fine officer.

November 8 -Jackson, the Convict who tried to hang himself a few nights previously, lies still and quite like a dead man in his cell. He will neither speak nor answer when spoken to, and will not take even coffee or water when offered to him. I recommend that he be removed to a hospital where a close watch can be kept over him, and feeding can be forced upon him, otherwise I

suspect he will starve himself to death, rather failing in a quicker method the other night.

November 14 -one of the more comical occurances took place to relieve the monotony that clings so heavily about the prison as a rule. It was one of the funniest things I have witnessed for some time. It sent me about my duties chuckling the while and lifted the depression I always feel while among these locked, caged prisoners. Our two oldest convicts, Moses Talbot, No. 30, who is 72 years old, has a long, flowing beard and goes about with the aid of a cane, and William [illegible], No. 92, only year younger who has a white beard and walks about with a noticeable limp, got into a tussel. They did grab each other's whiskers, and pulled and yanked and pulled. Their voices being weak, too, the noise of their yelling and hollering was barely heard. When I found them they were both sitting on the floor exhausted, but still clutching each other by the beard and hurling whispered epithets at each other. Upon investigation I learned the reason for the fracas. They both claimed to know a certain New York actress in the earlier days and they both denied the other was acquainted with her. I doubt that either of them knew the actress who was the cause of the dispute. I told them to get up off the floor and shake hands with each other or I would order their whiskers to be shaved. This frightened them more than a little and they walked in friendship again.

"Give me your money and one of those real guns."

Hardly No Rehabilitation in Prisons

A F Charlo

(Editor's note: This is the first of a two-part series. The next part is concerned why life is wasted in prisons by Albert F. Charlo.)

Throughout history prisons have been designed for criminals. But one of the big questions is: "What kind of criminals?" Some convicted people have mind conflicts, and some are actually mentally ill. Some are convicted because they are young in mind and cannot control their mischievous impulse, and others because of prejudice. We can also say, some are convicted because the lack of money.

Regardless of why or what kind of people are put into prisons, they are victims of improper treatment. In prison they begin losing their senses of reality. First, and the biggest problem, they grope for understandment. Second, their mental conflicts make them miserable with resentment. And third, they begin living the thoughts of others. Some live in self-pity, (forty per cent of prisoners are mentally bothered).

From this source of information, anyone could reason that trying to rehabilitate a person with insufficient prison facilities and officials is like saying to a convicted person: "Get rehabilitated, or I will shoot you." Actually then, are prisons reliable for rehabilitation or do prisons make sensible people ask, "Is punishment a crime?"

Not only in some, but in almost every prison throughout the United States there is the realized problem: There is not one thing in prisons to make a convicted person competent for society. For instance, only the wise convict can help himself while in prison. He can take advantage of excellent books or good examples. Here he is only limited to books. (Some prisons have schools, but schools are in the experimental stage.)

More or less, his mental status is built up to an ignorant attitude. This comes from poor environment within the prison.

How can a convict return to society as a better person? His mental attitude is the same, or worse, when he goes out of a prison. This is a serious problem, because 99 per cent of paroled convicts have never been rehabilitated to an adequate measure.

The only psychiatric help in most prisons for a few is one psychiatrist, and he seems to enjoy a game of silly questions with hopes of getting stupid answers. For instance, he will ask the inmate about a couple of colors, green and red. He asks, "If I had two colors, green and red, and took away the green; what color would be left?" If the inmate answers the green color, he is declared insane and must have a shock treatment. On the other hand, if the inmate lucks out and answers the red color, he passes the idiot test and the psychiatric treatment is finished.

This is a sad situation, but it is happening; and if conditions are not bettered, the convicts who get a parole must realize that they must help themselves remain free. For if they do not, no prison is going to help them become better people. The old adage is: "Who cares if a convict gets help so he can live a decent life, he is only a criminal at heart and can never be helped."

*****

Two young girls standing in the hall of the school noticed the handsome track star pass them.

One girl said, "Boy! I'd give my eye tooth to have him ask me for a date."

The other girl swooned, "Hey! I'd give my whole upper plate."

AFC

--*

"How much time did I bring? Just a cheap ole timx!"

AFC

An education will give you more of a choice
(stay in school)

* * *

There are presently 18 lifers shaking time in Montana State Prison.

The Real Truth About Parole

Parolees exonerated in Crime Rise spiral.

Blame for the spiraling crime rate shouldn't fall on shoulders of paroled prison inmates, according to the annual report of the Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles. The report was released Dec. 31, 1968, and its basic findings were:

"100 percent of the inmates paroled have credit for more than the minimum time required by law.

"65 percent served all of their sentence without parole.

"88 percent served all, or more than 50 percent of their sentence.

"More than 90 percent of those paroled are in good standing or have successfully completed parole.

"10 percent of the paroles were revoked.

"Less than one-half of one percent committ crimes of violence.

"These percentages have remained relatively stable for a number of years as the crime rate, in Texas and the nation, continued to spiral upward.

"Therefore, it is reasonable to say that it is not the parolee who causes the major crime rate increase."

The report said that 1,921 inmates were released from Texas prisons during the fiscal year ending Aug. 31, 1968, by the Governor on the recommendation from the Board. During the year, the Board considered 11,015 cases for parole, the report said.

The Board has three members. Its Chairman is Pat Bullock, appointed by the Chief Justice of the Texas Supreme Court. Members are Jack Ross, appointed by the Governor, and A.C. Turner, appointed by the presiding judge of the Court of Criminal Appeals.

In a section of the report titled, "The Pendulum Swings," the booklet said: "The Board will always be under constant pressure from those who believe the Board is not paroling quickly enough, nor in sufficient quantity, and those who believe that every offender should serve every calendar day of his sentence, for the sake of punishment alone.

"Both of these views are extremes - all offenders are

not alike, nor should they all be treated alike. Adherance to either of the extremes will result in eventual failure of the parole system."

The report said that "The interests of society can best be served by a fair study of the present parole system; and, an understanding of the current parole statistics, both as to releases and revocations."

The report said that parole costs about a fourth of what prison incarceration costs the state. Imprisonment costs the state $1,100 per man per year, while parole supervision costs $271 per man per year.

"Successful parolees represent salvaged human lives, on which it is impossible to place a monetary value. However, last year at any given time, at least 90 percent of the parolees were gainfully employed, supporting their families, paying their taxes, and buying homes, automobiles and other products," the report stated. (From the Austin, Texas, American-Statesman.

ATTENTION!!!
EMPLOYERS!!!

Have you ever considered hiring a parolee?

Skilled. semi-skilled and unskilled workers available

There are men presently awaiting release on parole who are seeking employment. Steady employment is a requisite of parole and these men cannot be released until they have employment Won't you help these men in their efforts to rebuild their lives and to become useful, productive members of the communtiy?

Many of these men have had previous experience or have received training in the following trades.

SIGN PAINTING
MACHINE SHOP
PRINTING
LAUNDRY WORKERS
SHOE WORKERS
REFRIGERATION
OFFICE MACHINE REPAIR
CLOTHING MANUFACTURE
DRY CLEANING
TAILORING
SOAP AND SOAP PRODUCTS PROCESSING

Automotive

AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR
BODY AND FENDER WORK
SPRAY PAINTERS

Building Trades

ELECTRICIANS
PLUMBERS
CEMENT FINISHING
WELDING
WOOD WORKERS
GENERAL LABORERS
CARPENTERS
BRICK AND BLOCK LAYERS
METAL WORKERS
STEAMFITTERS
WOOD FINISHERS
PAINTERS

ALSO AVAILABLE ARE FARM HANDS AND OTHERS CAPABLE OF PERFORMING A VARIETY OF JOBS

Let us know your labor needs
For further information contact

Eugene Bond Inst. Parole Officer
Box 7
Deer Lodge, Montana 59722
or Call 846-1320 Ext 26

Intercepted Mail

Mein Dear Aunt Tessie, February the 1st
State of the United

I now take mein pen and ink in hand to write a leaded pencil.

I hate to say it beut mein wife is on vacation. She left at 15 minutes front of five to go to California, although she has New Monia. We found a dress that she forgot to pack and found $10 sewed in the bustle. It was an awful lot of money to leave behind.

Napee took his dog Fido, down to the sawmill yesterday to have a fight. He ran up against one of the circular saws. He only lasted one round.

The Indian family next door have the mumps, they are having a swell time.

Napee's brother Otis, found your yellow coat, so he is sending it to you by express and in order to save express charges he cut the buttons off. You will find them in the pocket.

Mr. Bohunkie just graduated from college, he took up election and physical torture.

Napee's sister Saff, is going back to school to learn to be a stenographer. She got a job down at the livery stable taking hay down for the horses.

Napee just got sick today. The Doc told him to take something, so he took the Mayor's wristwatch. The Mayor got him arrested and got a lawyer. The lawyer got the case and Napee got the works.

Otis has 9 chickens and a fine dog. The hens lay three eggs a day and the dog lays behind the stove.

The peoples is dying around here that never died before. I wish we were closer apart. It is lonesome around here since we were separared together.

Your friend Tillie, is getting along fine with the small pox, and hope you are the same.

I remain here - your kin Folk

P.S. If you don't get this let me know and I will write again.

P.S.S. I've got $10 I owe you, but I close up the letter and I can't get it in.

FOSTER PARENTS

Dear oster Parents,

We are pleased to write to you about your foster child. We are certain you are equally eager to learn how she has fared.

Scholastically, she is now a first year college student. She is taking up a secretarial science course. Terestita is quite shy. She is pleasant and friendly. Her mother has high hopes that after her collegiate course she could help with the younger children.

Economically, Mrs. Estacio still sells fish and vegetables in the public market. They still reside in the same rural community. They live with paternal relatives and this arrangement is most convenient for all the family members.

Socially, Teresita is quit and reserved. She has many friends and she enjoys so many things and activities with them. However, we note she is not gregorious and outgoing.

Medically, all the children are healthy. Aside from the ordinary colds and fly, they have never been reported to have had severe illnessess. Rest assured that everything within the family is facing alright. Your continued assistance allows us to work effectively with them. Plan services are geared towards the full advantage of your foster child and her family members.

Teresita wants to continue with her studies. Younger siblings would also want the same opportunity. Further assistance from Plan is needed and we hereby recommend your support, anew.

Signed
Marita G. Lumatay, Soc. Wkr.
for Robert T. Sage
Director in the Philippines

My Dear Foster Parents, November 1968

How is the world treating you this day. Good, find, if!!! It's a big suprise when this letter of mine reach to your hand, but first of all let me first extend my best regards to your beloved parents, brother and sister and most of all to you my dear Foster Parents.

My dear, All Saints Day have been past and Christmas is past approaching, and it's the time for everyone too happiest come. By the way, may I ask you some personal questions. Why are you not writing anymore? You say from your letter that you write every month and after that they have no letters to come.

To my studies, I'm taking steno-type, not nursing that I told to you. In studying this subject I'm find out that it's a very hard subject.

Last month I received 2 qantas of rice, 1 bottle of medicine, and money that cost P31.20 ($8.00). That's all and God will abide with you always.

Oh! Before I forget my beloved parents told me that she is hoping for the best regards to the family circle.

Very respectfully yours,

Signed: Teresita M. Estacio

POETIC LICENSE

Supreme Penalty

WHEN Pittsburgh police chased a car after a service station attendant spotted a note on it reading, "Help, I'm being kidnaped," they found the occupants were happy honeymooners.

●

A sudden chase, the sirens wailed.
Relentlessly that car they tailed.
No Bonnie, Clyde or swarthy hood,
But just a couple feeling good.
A kidnap job? No guns were packed
But in a way her heart's hijacked.
The penalty for going steady?
We guess the guy's got life already.

MAX FATCHEN

Adelaide (Australia) Advertiser

Bloodsmiles

By DON L. LEE

I remember the time
when I could
smile--
smiles of
ignorance.
This was about
? years ago,
now--smiles do not
come as easily
as they are
supposed
to.

My smiles are
now fixed
and
come slowly
like the gradual
movement of tomatoes--
in a near empty
ketchup bottle--
about to be
eaten.

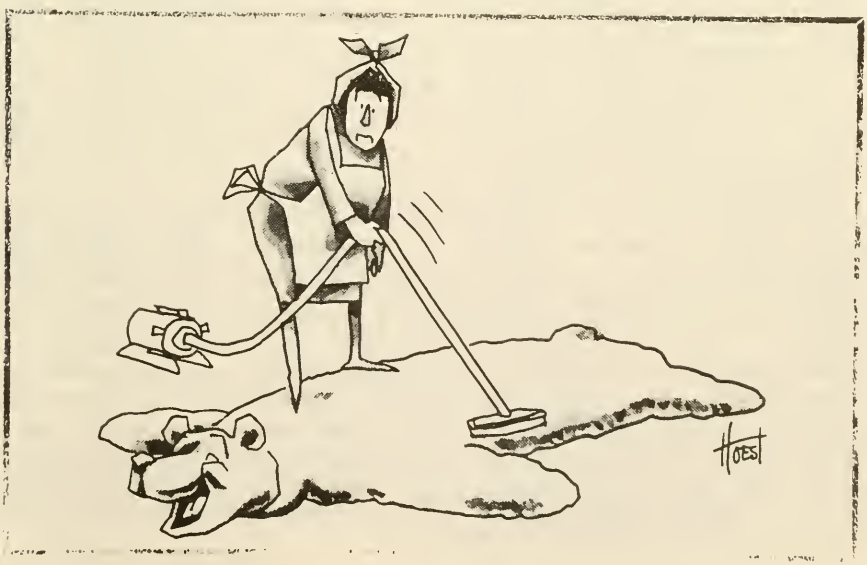
Dear Foster Parents, December 1968

How are you? I hope you are in good condition when my letter reach to your hand, and before we go over to the main topic let me first extend my best regard to your wife, your daughter, to your son and above all to you my foster parents.

To you Foster Parents, you know that the All Saints Day have been past and Christmas is fast approaching, and it is the time for everyone should be happy for that time. How is Christmas there celebrated, will you describe it? Here in our place when 16th of Dec. comes it is the time to start the Evening (Dawn) Mass until Dec. 25 is reached. When the midnight of Dec. 24th comes, we have what we called Noche Buena and some people are loitering around and going to their homes to eat for their Noche Buena, and others go caroling, and the owner of the house will give them money for this consideration.

By the way I received two quantes of rice, one bottle of medicine, three panties and the money that cost P39. 20(47.50) some of them will help me a lot and I'm very happy Dear Foster Parents. My letter is too long now and it disturb you to many long time and it's the time now to close my letter, but before I close it I'm wishing you a merry Christmas and a happy New Year. God bless you to your every day life.

Your Foster Daughter
Signed: Teresita M. Estacio



Kitty Korner

Dear Everyone,

Hello over there.

How does that grab ya for a start? Only kidding! To start this off, you'll all be happy to know that this will be my last time to submit an article. Sorry I've always been late and have been doing a poor job in these past articles, but then, we can't all be talented writers. I'll try not to goof up this last piece, I mean article.

Mr. Ed., I'm going to miss all your cute comments, that's all I've got to say. I don't want all of you to think I'm sorry to leave but it's like this; I'm more than willing to get out.

There hasn't been too much excitement going on over here since Alycia has taken up crocheting. Maybe she'll take you up on your challenge. She's getting good at crocheting. Although one slipper is bigger than the other, her pot holders are pretty cute for a beginner.

Alycia, who told you Washington D.C. was in Washington State, is in the mail department. She'll keep your mail going out I think she's still looking for the zip code to Canada. Oh Well, she's having fun.

Pat says she'll settle for a cooking contest with your baker over there. (She knows how to make that green frosting.) "Pat, how long did you say you cooked those spuds? Two days! Good grief C.B.!" I think she's the only one over here who uses Noxema to brush her teeth.

Our latest newcomer, Cheryl, still has that wonder what's going to happen to me expression. She is also the new swamper over here in our lab quarters. Just hang tough, Cheryl. We all learn something everyday, the hard way. Just keep your chin up. (Off the floor when you're scrubbing I mean.)

Velma's back to her laundry and hasn't had that phoebe smile. Can't hack those packages, huh?

Gee Mr. Ed., we're sorry about the kitty deal but you know how us gals are. We've changed our minds. All you have to do is put a smile on the kitty and give her a mate and then we'll all be happy. (Pat's suggestion)

I guess that's about it for this time. I want you guys to know that I have enjoyed reading the M.P. News. I wish you all the best of luck and hope you keep smiling even if you don't feel like it. It looks much better than that old frown. Wish me luck on the outside as I'll really need it.

So until the next time, be good, be nice and keep hanging in there.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Good luck, Mary and we all wish you the best, and most of all, we're all gonna miss your comments in this ole' "rag". You've done a good job and I'm sure everyone concerned, appreciated your efforts. (mutt)

"SORRY, BUT WE LOVE YOU"
(Reprinted from "The Pendleton Reflector")

We've snatched you from Society to preserve good citizens' health,
We've packed you off to prison to protect your neighbors' wealth.
Ours is the power to punish, the sword of sweet revenge;
You freely chose to break our rules, now you're paying for your sin.

But we shan't keep you forever, We're not so cruel you see,
Just show us you've repented, And we'll gladly set you free.

We really want to help you, In our hearts there is no hate;
Our fondest hope, our favorite phrase, is "REHABILITATE".

We'll show you how to ply a trade, We've got schools from A to Z,
We'll teach you how to read and write, To box and watch T.V.
Just show us that you mean well, That you've learned to do your time,
And we'll only keep you one more year, For the Nature of your Crime.

Lazy Man's Psalm

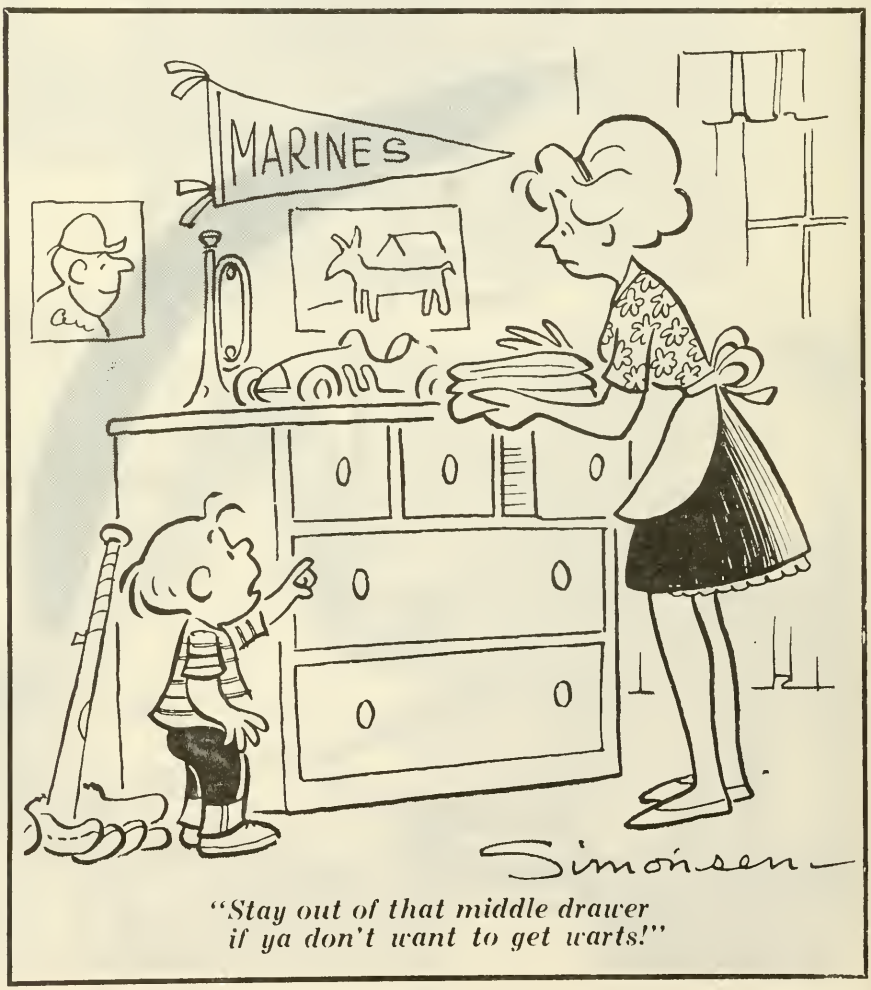
Society is my shepard; I shall not work. It alloweth me to lie down on a soft bed in the midst of my indebtedness It leadeth me beside the still factories. It destroyeth my ambitions. It leadeth me in the paths of the goldbrick for the sake of something or other....

Yea, though I walk through the valley of inflation, I will fear no evil, for the welfare agencies are with me. Their generosity and their staffs, they comfort me. They prepareth the handouts that filleth my table, by mortgaging the earnings of my grandchildren.

My head is filled with mirth because my cup runneth over without effort. Surely, the taxpayers shall care for me all the days of my life. And I shall dwell in the house of the parasites forever.

3146

EDITOR'S NOTE: As the Editor of this RAG; I am supposed to "Editorally Revise" material submitted for publication. And my feelings on the subject is this: If an Inmate submits an article to this rag for publication, he must think it is ready, or he would be still revising it himself. I WILL NOT,nor will the Staff of the M.P. News, change the wording of an article, tako out a word, or as sometimes been done, take out full lines or paragraphs in the name of "SPACE". All I am looking for is misspelled words and making sure that the English Language is not mulitated to badly in this publication. All articles are accepted, both from the free world and the INMATES. . . . . .(mutt)



"Stay out of that middle drawer if ya don't want to get warts!"

THAT BOTTLE AGAIN

GREAT FALLS, Mont. (AP) -"They'll know what to do with this," the stranger told a receptionist at a cable TV office as he set a large carton on the counter and left.

It contained a sleeping bag, a fire extinguisher, miscellaneous tools and a note.

"We were drunk at the time we took these and decided later that we really didn't want them," the note said.

"The attached ($10) is to pay damages for the hole we cut in the wall."

An employee said the items had been taken from a micrO-wave repeater site on Mt.. Baldy.

"I know this sounds stupid, Ethel, but what is Fred wearing tonight?"

The 25th Hour

Judith

CLARK THEATRE

April 5, 1969
The 25th Hour
Anthony Quinn, Virna Lisi, Michael Redgrave, Gregorie Aslan. Color 134 Min.
April 12, 1969
The Hero's Telemark

Rothe Hall

April 5, 1969
Goodby Charlie
Debbie Reynolds, Tony Curtis, Pat Boone, Walter Matthau. Color 117 Min.
April 12, 1969
Judith
Sophia Loren, Peter Finch Peter Hawkins, Hans Verner. Color. 109 Min.

From The

Warden's Office

The administration is well aware of the importance of parole to a prison inmate. This issue carries an article entitled, "The Real Truth About Parole." The article covers the actions of the Texas Parole Board and the records of the paroles during the year of 1968.

The figures indicate that the Texas Parole Board released 16% of those eligible to appear. The Montana Parole Board released 58.3% of those eligible to appear.

The article indicates that 10% of the Texas paroles were violated. Montana shows that 42% of the paroles were revoked in 1968. The national average on violation of paroles was 36% on July 1st of last year.

The administration has heard rumors that it is possible to buy a parole. When the word "buy" is used, it is in reference to cash money - so much down and so much more after the inmate is released on parole. Don't let anyone "snow" you with a stupid proposition like this. There is no one in the State of Montana who could approach the Parole Board with anything but the official records, and these documents speak for the inmate and influence the members of the board one way or another.

There isn't a person in the world who could possibly buy a parole for an inmate of Montana State Prison. This list would include judges, lawyers, prison employees, employees of the Board of Pardons, and anyone else you might have in mind. Take the Administration's word for it and save your money.

If you think you have any sort of legal action that might speed up your release, please use the courts for your own good. Signed: Ed. Ellsworth

EDITOR'S NOTE: The deadline for all articles is the 15th of each month, preceeding the month that you want your article published. It will be published; I would also like to hear a few comments from you who are doing time, or for that matter anyone else, who is interested in commenting on any article in this publication at any time. This is your paper, your sounding-board to the outside - so how about giving me a hand. I know most of you have a few rebuttals. Thank You. (mutt)

From The OLD BUZZARD'S ROOST

Bear with me fellas; it's pretty hard to get this publication out on time due to censorship, and the shortage of printing supplies. I've tried to get this "rag" out by the 1st of each month but so far I have not been able to do so. Thanks for bearing with me, and ya all remember - your articles are due in this office by the 15th of each month....One swamper said he's got a job, that he wouldn't take a dollar bill for; listening to that good music all day long....Napee said if every Parolee in Montana would quit drinking for one month, there would not only be fewer violations, but it would give the stuff a chance to age....An insurance company says that a lot of accidents happen in the kitchen. We already knew that. We have to eat them.... Parole anybody? Oooops! sorry about that....Stretch (Brittingham) getting discovered; and of all places; In the messhall. ....Napee was nabbed by a guard, who found a flask of raisin-jack in his back pocket. How's that for a kick in the pants....Seen some new "runners" patches on a couple of fellas. My first thought was; they're the runners for the Chaplain's office. By mistake, their job is with the recreation department and they can be seen every week-end selling popcorn....Napee said he once knew a cashier in a bank who wanted to be one of the "400". He came pretty close too - he got to be number 387 in Alcatraz....Anatomy: Something everyone has, but it looks better on a girl....Slick (Cardinal) back to the ole' grind....Napee sez a lot of parents never worry about their daughter until she fails to show up for breakfast - and then it's too late...If brains were made of wood you wouldn't have enough to make a toothpick for a termite. But, Doris, yooo sure is a swell cook....I'd love to bust out with you guys' - But my wife is out char....Whirleybird (Kirkland) telling Butt: "Han you just started a woar.....Only one man in a thousand is a leader of men. The other 999 are followers of women.... In a pawnshop: "hock it to me."...On an Electricians Truck: "Socket to me."....On a marquee for Japanese strip

Teaser: "The Sockatumi Baby."..At a health station, giving polio shots: "Talk it to me."....Basketball in full swing. What's this I hear about the Barber Shop beating the top team....Napee went on sick call and seen the Doctor and lifted up his arm. He said, "It hurts when I do this,Doc." The Doctor replied,"Don't do that then!" Poor Fella....Marching in never-ending lines from cells to meals, to work, to movies, to yard, to meals; to cells - listening to two-bit Dillingers who have outwitted G-Men, state police, and city cops, who are in jail on a frame, or a bum-rap, or because some inconsiderate fellow put the finger on him - free haircuts and khaki clothes - reading that is carefully censored and selected to protect us from the harsh facts of life - days when a rainstorm is a major disaster, when it only rains on, Saturdays, Sundays, and Holidays - writing one sheet letters - proofreading and checking copy - opening and slamming cell house doors, forgetting there are such things as solid doors and door nobs - selected radio programs and no dials with a lot of static - television programs that are carefully selected;so's not to corrupt our minds - Calanders that have been marked off in neat dark pencil and the circled date that means expiration, or possible parole - conversations built around the clauses, "when I get out," "you'll never see me back here again," "I knew a girl once who...." All these things shall pass away. Praise be!.....Napee won't say how much face cream, cold cream, and vanishing cream his wife uses - but she doesn't get out of bed - she slides out...Full speed ahead. That is the cry of the painters. Each and every cell must be painted - mine was painted twice last summer....EVOL - That's love spelled backwards: Who's to say it isn't right both ways....And how about this for all of us to REMEMBER: "You walk through the gate, that seals your fate, where no man you can trust, the walls will stand, when you're not a man, but a little pile of dust....All of the top windows in the cellblock are boarded up. Why?....The fashion experts tell us that the hemlines of women's dresses are getting higner and necklines getting lower. Most men aren't sure where all this is leading too,but we'd like to be around when it happens....Visit the Library fella's. It's just chuck full of reading material. I meant to say: Bill Dale's vast storehouse of knowledge - sorry about that, Buddy!....PARQU T -- To maneuver a car into a stall or

slot: Mary brought a new car, but couldn't parquet....A distillery has come out with a new brand of liquor called "Metracal Bourbon" you still see the same things, but the elephants are skinnier.... . . . . .
. . . . . .
. . . . . .
. . . . . Overheard in the yard: If his IQ was any lower, he'd ba a plant.". ...Agent double-ought-seven and seven-eights, (Randy Henderson) getting to be a real hum-dinger,when it comes to slapping this ole' "rag" together....Sign outside of a Great Falls dance hall: "Good clean dancing, every night - except Sunday....Charlo really ripping out a tune on these machanical masters....You can't judge a modern girl by the clothes she wears - there's not enough evidence....Oh, how sweet it is?.....The greatest luxery in the world is a good hot breakfast - hot eggs, hot bacon, something I ain't had in many a moon....There's a lot of talk these days about broken homes causing juvenile delinquency. Well, a lot of chickens come from broken homes, and who ever heard of a delinquent chicken? I don't mean chicks either....Napee grew up to be the kind of a kid his mother didn't want us to play with. .....Where have all the carrots gone? I mean, where did all these cotton-picking carrots come from. Carrots in the morning, carrots in the evening, carrots at supper time. Ya Ya....Any kid in Montana may get to be Governor when he grows up. That's just one of the risks he has to take....You fellas' - I mean you ladies across the street - MISSED the deadline again, didn't ya. Well, you know what they say back on the ole "res." "tuff!" So that is the way the moppy, floppies....A guy in here took one of those job aptitude tests outside. They finally figured out that he was best suited to sell volly-balls in a chinese laundry....The February Parole Board went like this: Twenty - five (25) went up and Sixteen (16) made it. Nine (9) got set a few years or so, while Four (4) went up for Reappearences,and there was no change in that respect. The Four (4) Parole Violators' that went up, were all detained a while longer. Five (5) waived their hearings and that is the way the ball bounced....So till next time around, I'll leave you with this little word by Carl Sandburg: "Life is like an onion; you peel it off one layer at a time, and sometimes you weep." . . . . . .(mutt)

HAR & THAR

FLIMSY

COUNCIL BLUFFS, Iowa (AP) -Pottawattami County Sheriff Joy Michael found empty cells in his jail last week and this note:

"I sincerely (sic) hope that this escape will help you get a new jail because you need one. I knot (knocked) out the wall in an hour. Sincerely yours, Ike and Bill K.O."

Three of the escapees were picked up in Omaha Neb. The four were being helf for trials.

Michael said the prisoners used a steel brace from a table to pry a steel plate from the wall and dig a hole about 18 inches in diameter through the outer wall.

RETORT FROM MADDOX

ATLANTA, Ga. -Gov. Lester Maddox was asked at a news conference Wednesday about rehabilitation of inmates in Georgia's Prison system.

Maddox replied: "We're doing the best we can. And before we can do much more, we're going to have to get a better grade of prisoners."

PRISONER STAYS, BUT HE'S LONELY

CUMMINS PRISON FARM Ark. (AP) -Officials at Cummins Prison Farm recently decided they should send a guard with an inmate who drove one of the prison's milk trucks to a nearby town.

A short time later, the inmate called the prison and told officials he had been deserted.

The guard wandered off and did not return.

YULE BANDIT STEALS KISS

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (UPI) -A bandit with a sawed-off shotgun robbed motel clerk Sara Trout of $77 and a kiss.

The gunman also robbed two motel guests of an undetermined amount of money when they walked into the lobby.

Mrs. Trout said the gunman started to leave then turned back and said "Kiss Me," pointing the shotgun at her.

"I kissed him," she said. The bandit then shook hands with the other victims and wished them "Merry Christmas."

BRITAIN'S NEW PAROLE SYSTEM

LONDON (AP) -Britain's new parole system started today as the first of 350 qualifying prisoners walked out of jail to enjoy their limited freedom.

All 350 have served at least one-third of their sen-

tences and will now work under the supervision of probation officers.

If any of the parolees abuse their freedom, a probation officer can have the person recalled to jail.

HIS LOOT WAS HANDY

LONDON (AP) -A convict in London's Pentonville Prison has disclosed to police where he hid the loot from his last robbery - in a suitcase he deposited in the jail office.

CANINE POT SNIFFERS

PRETORIA (AP) -South Africa police announced they have a school training dogs to sniff out marijuana. The first three graduates will be assigned to the vice squad.

HONEYMOON JITTERS

APPLERY, England (UPI) -Arthur Ludgrove, fined 5 pounds ($12) for driving 54 miles an hour in a 30-mile zone in this village explained:

"I was on the first day of my honeymoon. I was excited and a little eager to get to the hotel before night fell."

WISHFUL THINKING?

STEYER, Austria (AP) -A jail supervisor received a three year prison term for supplying prisoners with radios, binoculars and other items. It was not explained what the inmates did with the binoculars.

DOGGONE CARELESS

TRIVANDRUM, India (AP) -Police dogs in Kerala state are NOT infallible. Chief Minister E.M.S. Namboodiripad told the state assembly the dogs made a mistake in at least one out of 41 cases in the detection of crime during the past year.

SOUTHERN HOSPITALITY

Lifts jug of Booze in Hospitality Room

CHARLESTON, S.C. (AP) -An employee at the hotel where the Southern Governors Conference is being held, took advantage of host Gov. Robert McNair's hospitality.

Security agents spotted him tiptoeing in a suspiscious manner out of the governor's hospitality room. He was charged with petty larceny for stealing a bottle of whiskey.

Associate Municipal Judge M. Goldberg suspended sentence saying, "Who would have ever thought that our governor would have whiskey in his hospitality room?"

EX-CON COPS?

JACKSON, Mich. (PP) -A separation, divorce or a felony record will no longer automatically disqualify men in

joining the Detroit City Police Force, if a proposal by Mayor Cavanaugh is accepted and approved by the City Council, according to a recent radio station WJR news cast.

The proposal was made by Mayor Cavanaugh in a drive to recruit and hire more police in Detroit.

Another requirement to be lowered is that of height.

Educational requirements will remain the same.

JURY DUTY

South Walpole, Mass. (PP) -F. Lee Bailey says that prospective jurors should receive mandatory pretrial schooling before they are sworn in.

He stated that, "An American jury is a curious phenomenon. It is ruled by one to three strong persons and if a lawyer has the top ones, he has the rest."

Bailey's plan would be for the trial judge to instruct the jury on how to weigh evidence, on perception and how to observe the keys to accuracy.

INMATES AID RETARDED

CONCORD, Mass. (PP) -Six inmates and one correctional officer from M.C.I. Concord, received certificates as fully qualified hospital attendents at the Fernald School for the mentally retarded. The program which the inmates followed, was to go every day to the school and help the youngsters.

The idea at first to have criminals working with the mentally retarded was violently opposed, but the urgency of the call for help had to be fulfilled.

After coverage in most of the nation's leading newspapers, Governor Volpe praised the program as a "breakthrough" in care of, what some people might call, "hopeless cases."

CONS CAN BE TRUSTED

JACKSON, Mich. (PP) -During the past few months inmates at several Michigan penal institutions have been released "temporarily" without supervision to visit seriously ill members of their family or attend family funerals.

Gus Harrison, Director of Michigan Department of Corrections, reports that 45 men have made these trips successfully.

Michigan has long allowed prisoners to make these trips with the escort of a correctional officer but this is the first program in the state that has allowed them to go home on their own.

LETTERS to the Editor

dear ed-

You ain't doing to good a job with the paper. Boy is the speling awful. And your, puncturation is bad.

Maybe you want a little help to put the paper back on it's feet. I think I coula be a benefitted to you.

I ain't done to much writing -- mostly checks-but I'm sure I could be of some help, making the paper better

A woman was shopping for a pair of pants for her little boy. "Do you want knickers with a zipper?" asked the clerk. "No, Johnny has a sweater with a zipper and he's always getting his tie caught in it," was the reply.

"You realize, of course, that you're resisting an officer. "

LETTERS TO RHUBARB

Dear Rhubarb:
Is the United States holding the peace conference in Paris or is North Vietnam?

Dove

Dear Dove:
The United States is confering on peace terms, and North Vietnam is listening.

Dear Rhubarb:
Does the United States need to talk peace with North Vietnam?

Hawk

Dear Hawk:
Yes, if there were no peace talks, how could the war continue?

Dear Rhubarb:
Does a riot develope from a misunderstanding?

Citizen

Dear Citizen:
No, the rioters understand why they riot.

Dear Rhubarb:
Is it true that Peggy Fleming learned to ice skat at the age of 3?

Sports

Dear Sport:
Yes, she didn't learn to walk until the age of 4.

Speaking Out by George Stroisch

There seems to be some doubt about the courage of the men in the field of photography, so here I am citing a very good case for these brave men. It seems that sometime ago, the Field & Stream magazine printed an article concerning these very dangerous, feline-type animals, sometimes seen in an area in Montana, known as Deer Lodge. There seems to be three known species of these almost forgotten wild feline animals. As the article went on to state, the largest of all these animals (cats to you Buster) is the cougar. It is a large powerful, tawny brown cat, also called catomount, mountain lion, panther, and puma. It is known to be very dangerous, and the photographer stated he was unable to get any photos of this dangerous animal, due to the weather conditions (snow and cold).

The next species of the three, is the bobcat, somewhat smaller in size than the cougar, it too, is wild and dangerous when wet, hungry or cornered. It is also known as the lynx cat. And the photographer was again unable to get any photos due to weather conditions in that area, and due to the movements, that both the bobcat and the cougar make during such weather.

Then comes the third species of this wild life. And this class is known to most people as the "pussycat." It seems that the photographer was given to understand, that of the three species, he should approach this animal with the utmost caution; as somehow, and in someway, word got around that he should fear, or should be afraid of this species of the feline class.

Well, he is happy to report that; not only were they very tame, but in this case, the four "pussycats" in the Deer Lodge area, were of the domesticated varity.

How this last species was ever classed with the two species mention above, (cougar, bobcat) he isn't sure. But, somewhere there must have been an error in the classification of the "pussycat." It is also known at times as a kitten, kitty, and others, and most commonly found in the area called the Kitty Korner. A remote and largely unexplained corner of the N.P.News.

He was able though sheer perserverance, and unequalled

courage to get some photos of the four known, kittens of that corner. But, in his own belief, the best way to make them happy and content is to pet them. You will be rewarded with a soft purring sound. The only reason for their existence that he can make out is, that they make a good house pet, and they do make nice house pets at times. So, as you can see they can't be that dangerous when treated in the proper manner.

PROVERBS

ONCE A THIEF....Beat one dog, the others will run away. (Morrocan) You can't straighten a snake passing it through a bamboo tube. (Japanese) Correction is good when administered in time. (Danish) Advise and counsel him; if he does not listen, let adversity teach him. (Ethiopian) Chastise the good man, he will grow better; chastise the bad man, he will grow worse. (Portuguese) The strongest resolves at reform are broken as ropes of sand. (American) Correction should not respect what is past so much as what is to come. (Unknown)

"What do you mean you're nobody's fool? You're MINE!"

Law and Order

by Mutt

Ever since the Republicans served notice in Miami last year, when they made "Law and Order" a campaign issue, I've been wondering exactly how they're going to go about it now that they're in office.

Law and order, after all, is not an issue that produces perceptible disagreement, either in or out of political parties. Everybody is for it;nobody is against it. A politician would as soon attack motherhood or the flag.

The constitution of the United States, moreover, imposes on the President an obligation to "Take care that the law be faithfully executed." A candidate could hardly expect to be elected who campaigned against that obligation.

If law and order,as a principle or a goal or an ideal, is essentially non-controversial, is there significant disagreement between the two parties on how law and order should be inforced? I'm not so sure.

In dealing with riots, for example, neither party would want to set down in advance the exact steps that ought to be taken and when and how.

It would depend on the situation in each case. No one can tell ahead of time whether the National Guard should be called in, when it should be called in, whether a massive invasion of the area by police would make things worse or better, when it is wise to shoot and when to talk.

It all depends on the place and the time and, of course, the circumstances. Both parties did agree that the police should be trained for riot duty, that plans should be developed and that necessary equipment should be on hand. But when the riot takes place, public officials have to do what seems best in the situation that they face. They cannot follow a blue print laid out in advance during a political campaign.

I do believe that the parties would disagree that the goal in dealing with a riot is to bring it under control as speedily as possible with a minimum loss of life and damage to property. So is the Republican Party going to champion a universal rule on how it ought to be done?

Now, how can there be, any kind of an argument by both parties over this law and order bit? It can happen only if one party or the other departs from its senses and demands that law and order be secured with the methods of the police state.

There could certainly be an argument if either party contended that the key to law and order is to disregard the constitutional rights of defendents.

But does either party want the states to convict citizens by forcing them to testify against themselves, by denying them counsel, by invading their homes without search warrants, and by holding them for long periods of time without a charge?

To deal with crime in that manner in America would not be to strengthen law and order, but to undermine it. If public officials were to show such contempt for the Constitution and the laws, they could hardly expect to build respect for the Constitution and the laws among other citizens.

If this party takes leave of its senses, there might also be an argument over whether it is right for the police to automatically and indiscriminatly shoot these looters.

But, I guess we can expect this party to agree that shooting by the police should never be automatic and indiscriminate, that it should be used when there is no alternative and avoided whenever it can be avoided.

To ask police to fire guns at a disadvantaged child reaching through a broken store window for a baseball glove is to ask something monstrous and preposterous. I do not believe that this party would take that position.

The weakening of law and order is a major source of discontent among the American people, and the country wants -- and needs an administration that will work vigorously against that trend.

But I don't look upon the need for strengthening law and order as a partisan issue. I suppose that we'll all be watching the Republicans to see if they can convince us that it is..... (mutt)

The Psychology of Punishment

By Dr. Menninger-

Any scientific clinic will disregard the assumption that a prisoner has to be punished. Just being mean to a person because that person has been mean to society does no good.

However, the treatment that people must take for any condition is going to have its unpleasant aspects, and will perhaps seem to them to be punishment. If you doubt this, make an appointment with the dentist to have a tooth pulled. Treatment is seldom a pleasure.

The whole idea of punishment is so inextricably wrapped up in with law, tradition, morality of various versons, childhood recollections, sentimental identifications, fear, resentment and other emotions, that it is extremely difficult to speak or write about it objectively.

Our statute contain provisions against "cruel" and "unusual" punishment; indicating that in some way or other the hurting done by the state must be a familiar, garden variety of hurting, and not something unexpected.

To deprive a man of decent social relationships, friendship and constructive communication, evidently does not strike the law or even the public conscience as being 'cruel' or 'unusual."

It is difficult to find any justification for punishment, as the law interprets it. The general idea seems to be that since a man has offended society, then society must officially offend him. It must deliver a 'tit' for the 'tat' that he delivered.

Society's retaliation must not be impulsive and it must not be done by mob action. It must be done by stipulation and by statute. It must be something that will make him sorry for what he did. If he is already sorry, then it must be something that will make him even more sorry.

The fact that he is apt to be sorry that he let himself get caught does not enter into the formula.

Furthermore, the 'tit' that society inflicts on a person must be different from the 'tat' he inflicted on society. He may have murdered or robbed or cheated or seduced, but society does not do any of those things to him.

Instead, society will take him out of his ordinary walks of life, out of his vocation, out of his family, out of his community, and out of the world of free human beings.

He will be transferred to a housed colony of strangers with whom he has nothing in common for the most part -- except that like himself they have been caught at something illegal and are being given the 'treatment.'

Like himself, the others have been sentenced to undergo this public, official revenge for their offenses, including reduction to a state of idleness, humiliation, anonymity and futility.

In this state of quarantine and degradation, the offender will meditate upon his evil deeds, his stupidity in having permitting himself to get caught, and upon the generosity of society for providing him with free room and board.

He will be assigned a number and a uniform. He will be maintained at public expense in the most drab and dreary environment conceivable, for a period of time which becomes the subject of complicated methodilogical calculation.

The time a prisoner serves is usually based upon the number of years defined as 'minimum,' the number of times he may be caught breaking prison rules, the number of auto tags manufactured, and other criteria of good and bad behavior.

LOW AND BEHOLD!

A tourist visiting a snake farm in Florida asked how rattlesnake venom was obtained.

"We milk them," the attendant said.

The tourist observed: "You must use a very low stool."

* - * - * - * -

A research scientist was in need of some brain tissue to conduct an experiment, so he consulted a research supply company as to the prices as being $50 a pound for rat brains, $100 a pound for human brains, and $150 an ounce for M.P. News Editors' brains.

The scientist was amazed and wanted to know why in the world M.P News Editors' brains were $150 and ounce when other human brains were only $100 a pound.

The salesman replied, "Why, man, do you realize how many M.P. News Editors you have to catch to get a whole ounce of brains!?!"

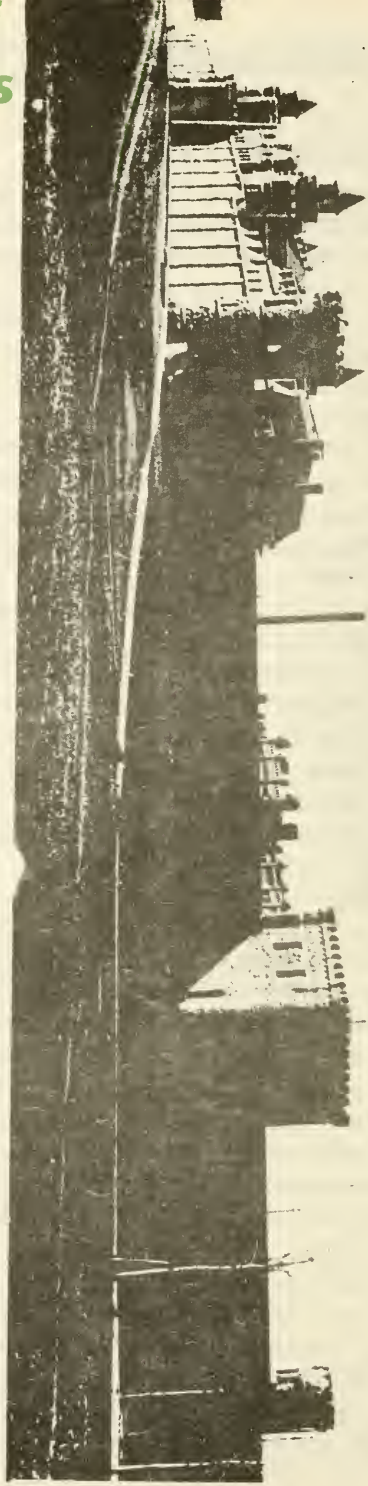
Last Victim of the Vigilantes

by

Phil S. Long

Those who knew his parents in Hannibal, Missouri, said Con Murphy wasn't born bad. But many who met him in Montana during the wild years between 1876 and 1885 would have disputed the fact. As it turned out, he almost escaped a sentence of death and would, the Hannibal friends claimed, have led a decent God-fearing life had he been able to return to Missouri.

Born John Redmond, the man Montanans knew as Con Murphy arrived on the frontier in 1876 as a young teamster employed to help move army supplies on General Terry's famous march down the Valley of the Yellowstone. He was a good worker and got along well with the troops; but something-perhaps a desire for adventure-prompted him to abandon the security of government paychecks and take off on his own. Making his way into the Gallatin Valley he adopted his alias, borrowing the first name Con from his younger brother. He launched a new career in the Lewis and Clark country-horsestealing.



Early photo of the Montana State Penitentiary at Deer Lodge from which Con Murphy escaped. Courtesy Montana Historical Society

His luck took a dip in 1879 when he was captured and sentenced to the penitentiary at Deer Lodge. After serving about seven months he made his escape-the first of several-but was recaptured on the Dearborn River by a posse led by Charles H. Jeffers, the sheriff of Lewis and Clark County. Returned to prison, Murphy served the remainder of his sentence and was discharged in 1882.

That winter he stole only enough horses to provide himself with a living, and in his "spare" time investigated the activities of the Fort Benton stage. That spring he attempted a one-man holdup in Prickly Pear Canyon, thirty miles north of Helena, and got away with comparative ease.

But the driver, an old-timer in the area, recognized him and before long Con was arrested and impounded in the Helena city jail. He made his escape by cutting through the roof, and headed east but was recaptured at Big Timber, Montana, and brought back to Helena.

This time he was imprisoned in the county jail, which was much stronger. But again the prize prisoner escaped and no one heard of Murphy again until spring of the following year.

In the high country away from Helena Murphy recruited the assistance of John and Henry Edmonson and George Munn. They made plans carefully and moved to the head of North Boulder Creek, where they stole twenty good horses, some of which belonged to rancher John Keating. Then, in a covered wagon driven by Mrs. John Edmonson with her children, they masqueraded as emigrants and headed for Idaho by way of Madison Valley. At Wigwam Creek they decided to rest for a day or two as they were sure they were far ahead of any pursuers.

Shortly after they had left the North Boulder, Deputy Sheriff Jack Alport had started after them. He arrived at Ennis about two days after they had been there and organized a posse consisting of George Thorpe, Harry Thompson, Ed Stiles and a few others. They intercepted Murphy's gang south of Wigwam Creek early in the morning before they had broken camp. It was a poorly arranged attack; although considerable shooting took place no one was hit on either side. But the thieves' firepower was enough to drive the posse away and Murphy and his companions fled south past Henry's Lake and down the Snake River.

Walter Long, my father, then a boy twelve years of

age, was herding cattle at the Sawtell Ranch on the northwest side of Henry's Lake when the horsethieves came by. A cold drizzling rain was falling and Murphy was wearing a dark overcoat and leather chaps and a huge wide-brimmed hat. When he approached the boy he had a Winchester rifle on his right arm and the butt of a .44 caliber six-shooter protruded from one of his saddle pockets.

Murphy was very pleasant and asked, "Son, do you know if they have any fish for sale over at that house?"

"I don't think so," replied the boy.

Then John Edmonson, a black-bearded, surly man, rode up and demanded in a gruff voice, "Well, then, have they got anything to drink?"

The boy stammered that they only drank water, and the dark giant of a man muttered several bitter oaths and wheeling his horse, rode off to join the herd. As the strangers left, Walter watched and saw them quirt a small colt unmercifully.

Early the next morning young Long followed the tracks of the horses in the mud and as he expected, he come to the colt a short distance down the trail. Hoisting the forlorn animal up on his saddle he returned home with it, but it died later in the day.

When Deputy Alport and his men returned to Ennis with news of their forced withdrawal the men of the Madison Valley became aroused. A posse of fifteen was formed, led by William Ennis, and they vowed to capture the thieves and return the stolen horses. On the third night after the outlaws had passed the Sawtell ranch the posse arrived and questioned Walter Long. The strangers' treatment of the colt had made him so bitter he had deliberately tried to remember every detail he could about the thieves and their equipment. He begged to be allowed to join the manhunt but, of course, was refused.

The posse traveled fast down the Snake River. The next day it overtook the wagon driven by John Edmonson and his family. The Edmonsons were placed under arrest. The following day the rest of the gang was located in a house in Rexburg, Idaho, where they had obtained supper and lodging at the home of Brigham Hicks. Ennis and his men contacted Hicks during the night, and the next morning Hicks told the outlaws that breakfast would be served at his brother's house across the street.

About seven a.m. Munn and Henry Edmonson strolled

leisurely out of the house. The men of the posse ordered them to throw up their hands. The two thieves went for their guns and shooting began. Edmonson dripped to the ground but Munn scrambled back into the house and an instant later reappeared in the doorway with a rifle. As he was drawing down, a bullet hit him and he fell back on the floor.

During a lull in the shooting Murphy called to the posse that Munn was dying and that he (Murphy) wanted to surrender. The posse stopped shooting and Con Murphy came out with his hands in the air. Henry Edmonson, who had not been hit after all, got up from the street and also surrendered.

Munn was dying-he had been shot through the body, the ball striking him in the right side of the breast. He lived about two hours and during that time dictated several letters to relatives in Missouri. He spent the rest of his time cursing the posse, daring them to give him a six-shooter so he could take some of them with him.

Ennis and his men buried Munn in the Rexbury cemetary and then took their prisoners to the railroad to be transported to Boulder, the scene of their crime. On the way they were guarded by Ben Burns, Martin Peel and Al Gloid. The rest of the posse returned by Henry's Lake, bringing with them the wagon, horses and the rest of the outlaws' equipment.

Murphy and the two Edmonsons were transferred to Helena to await trial. William Ennis, George Thexton, Theodore Wilkins, John Brice, George Thorps and Ben Burns were summoned to Helena as witnesses. Others called later from the Madison included Eidhard Coad, William Wagner, Charles Anceny and George Hadzor.

Henry Edmonson's trial started November 20, 1884; he was found guilty by the jury and sentenced to fourteen years in the territorial prison at Deer Lodge. On November 22 John Edmonson was brought to trial but the jury disagreed and he was discharged. He was brought to trial again on December 3rd and found guilty, drawing a sentence of twelve years in Deer Lodge.

But Con Murphy, true to his reputation, again engineeted his escape on election night that fall. Helena officers assumed that he had help from the outside but this was never officially proved.

To be continued in the nest Edition of the M.P. News....

Prisons Make Recidivists

"Longer sentences" is a popular cry these days. The public is told that crime is on the increase and thousands of words are written to frighten them into believing that they are virtually in mortal danger from the professional criminal. These statements are misleading and incorrect.

Social disturbances have caused crime figures to rocket. Most people with a modicum of intelligence realize this. However, what is not publicised is that nearly fifty percent of the perpetrators of robbery with violence (crime in the streets) have been arrested five or more times. The immediate thought is "why were they not rehabilitated or kept in prison."

That brings us back to the opening sentence. The unwholesome fact is, that prisons do not rehabilitate or reconstruct. They cling to the hoary notion of the dark ages that criminals are people who did wrong - ergo, they should be punished. Whenever it is suggested that this is something less than an accurate assesment of the situation. Another popular cry we hear, "don't coddle them!"

As prisoners, we don't want to be coddled. Mostly, we are men and would appreciate being treated as such. For a man to be sentenced to spend several years at the mercy of people who tell him what to do, when and how to do it, and never to argue the case, is against human nature and produces bitterness and hatred. - - -

with their fellow losers. However, instead of discovering their social and legal mistakes, they are busy impressing each other what successful gangsters they were and how they can't wait to return to the life of luxery. By the time these men are released, they are worse than when they were first incarcerated. And the public wonders why there are so many recidivists.

As Dr. Kruger said; "If we have the name, we'll play the game."

Of course, society could give cons a different name. It would have to be a name that indicates to everyone that prisoners are not hated, despised and considered low trash, as J. Edgar Hoover terms us. No man with antisocial tendencies is going to change for the better as long as he is suppressed and restricted. The answer is to build a shattered ego here, repair a broken spirit there, create a whole man from the lost wreck arriving in a state prison.

Latterly, programs concerned with education have been encouraged. This will reflect favorably on the administration. But long-term results are not considered: Counseling a man is not categorised as a 'proper' penal procedure and a certificate of fitness cannot be issued with pomp and ceremony.

In the final analysis, lengthy punishment is futile. Petty restrictions merely strip manhood and the veneer of civilization to reveal the basic animal reactions lurking beneath. If man is to ever correct his inhumanity to his fellow, let him start with his captives. It is the easiest thing in the world to condemn those who offend us. It is not so easy to help them through charitable understanding and mercy. As ever, society leans strongely towards the easiest way, the way of tradition and therin lies a great tragedy. (The Mentor)

The Governor of Mississippi has signed a bill to make the parents of a second illegitimate child guilty of a misdemeanor, subject to jail sentence and fine. The offense is now punishable by up to ninety days in jail and $250 in fines for the first violation, and up to 6 months and $500 for subsequent violations. Backers said the bill was aimed at reducing illegitimacy and cutting the welfare rolls.

Upping Prison Requirements

by Art Buchwald

WASHINGTON -I know you're not going to believe this, but Gov. Lester Maddox of Georgia told a news conference the other day, in answer to criticism about Georgia prison reform,that "We're doing the best we can, and before we do much better, we're going to have to get a better grade of prisoner."

Once again, Gov. Maddox hit the ax handle on the head. While penologists, sociologists, parole officers and prison commissions all have been at odds as to how to rehabilitate prisoners, Maddox has come up with the simplist and, without doubt, most sensible solution.

It has been known for years that prisons have been accepting a very low-class type of inmate, some without any education, others who are unstable and some who are just plain anti-social.

No effort has been made to attract a better grade of prisoner who would not only improve the caliber of our rehabilitation programs, but would also make society treat prisoners with the respect they deserve. For too long now we've been taking our prisoners for granted, and the standard for convicted felons has declined to a point where almost anyone can get into prison without his qualifications being questioned.

RECRUITING DRIVE, HIGHER PAY

This trend must be reversed if we ever hope to rehabilitate our prisoners. The first thing to do would be to set up a recruiting drive in high schools and colleges to get a better class of inmate. This would have to be coupled with higher pay for prisoners, so being behind bars would become worthwhile.

Intelligence tests have to be set up at prisons to weed out those unfit to be imprisoned. Then personal interviews would be given to the prospective convicts to see if they've got what it takes to be rehabilitated. If they can't cut the mustard, then the prison should have the right to reject them.

Besides the tests and the interviews, the admissions board would demand references from the candidates to see that the convicted were of high moral character. It's also possible, in case of the federal prisons, that each

congressman and senator could recommend two candidates for each penitentiary, as they do to West Point and Annapolis. In the case of state prisons, the governor could select the ones he believes have the most on the ball.

After making the application, taking his test, submitting to a personal interview and writing a composition tellig why he believes he would make a good prisoner, the candidate would be sent home an told he would be notified by the FBI about whether he made it or not. If he failed to get in, the candidate could reapply again---after he robbed another bank.

NEED BEST MONEY CAN BUY

Many people say that by being selective we would be making too many demands on our prisoners; but the taxpayers are paying for them and we should have the right to have the best convicts that money can buy.

I'm sure that Maddox will be ridiculed for his ideas on prison reform, but he is the first person to come along and point out what is wrong with the penal system in this country. It isn't the courts, nor is it the physical facilities holding us back, but the fact that we have not concentrated on improving the quality of the people we take in.

Anyone who has ever visited a prison in this country knows that Maddox is right. For years we have been scraping the bottom of the barrel for inmates, and it's no wonder they can't live up to our expectations.

It is only by raising the requirements for admission, and paying a decent wage, that we're going to get the grade of prisoner that Maddox and the rest of us can be proud of.

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If you find a mistake in this paper, consider that it was put there for a purpose. "We try to publish something for everyone," including those who are always looking for mistakes..... (mutt)

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First Things First! Prisoners and Prison Editors would do well to shelve the unemployment hooey that's being tossed to the four winds and harp up-on a different theme. The question isn't whether there's enough jobs to go around for parolees, it's whether or not there are enough parolees to go around to take care of what jobs there are.....

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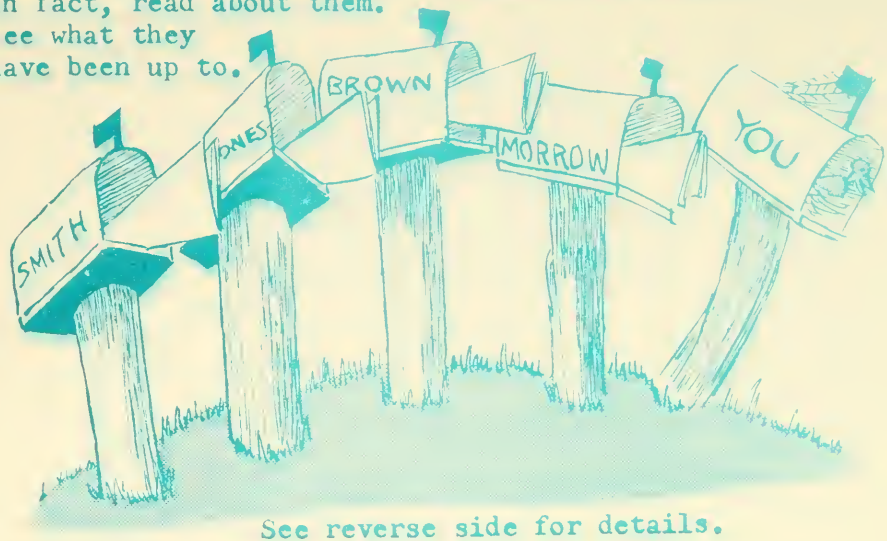

See reverse side for details.